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Message Text

SECRET

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47
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 022027
O R 170920Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 789
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

S E C R E T BEIRUT 12431

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EXDIS CAPTION ADDED AND MRN CORRECTED
TO READ 12431 VICE 2431)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: LEBANESE PARTICIPATION IN RABAT SUMMIT

1. DURING GENERAL CONVERSATION YESTERDAY WITH BOUTROS DIB, CHIEF OF CABINET AND PROBABLY CLOSEST ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT FRANGIE, SUBJECT OF RABAT SUMMIT WAS RAISED.

2. AS MOST RECIPIENTS THIS MESSAGE REALIZE, LEBANON CURRENTLY ENJOYING (SIC) GOVERNMENT CRISIS. DIB STATED HOWEVER THAT PRESIDENT FRANGIE DEFINITELY GOING TO RABAT AND UNLESS GOVERNMENT CRISIS IS SETTLED BEFORE THEN HE WILL BE ASSISTED BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER FOUAD NAFFA, WHOSE CURRENT PLANS ARE TO DEPART BEIRUT MONDAY, OCTOBER 21 TO ATTEND PRELIMINARY
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FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AT RABAT. HIS HEALTH PER-

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MITTING, DIB WILL BE WITH THE PRESIDENT. AS
LEBANON IS CURRENTLY PRESIDING OFFICER OF ARAB LEAGUE,
FRANGIE WILL PRESIDE OPENING RABAT MEETING. HE INTENDS, HOW-
EVER, IN HIS OPENING SPEECH TO REQUEST THAT KING HASSAN
AS HOST TAKE OVER THE PRESIDENCY OF RABAT SUMMIT.

3. DIB CURRENTLY DRAFTING BRIEF OPENING ADDRESS FOR
FRANGIE WHICH, HE SAID, HE DID NOT YET KNOW WHETHER IT
WOULD BE GIVEN IN OPEN OR IN CLOSED SESSION. SPEECH
WILL BE BRIEF AND WILL BE DESIGNED TO KICK OFF A
SERIOUS, NON-PROLIFIC DEBATE. SPEECH HAS
TO NOTEUNGA'S ACCEPTANCE INVITATION TO PLO, NECESSITY
FOR ARAB UNITY AND JUST SOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN
PROBLEM. ARAB OIL POLICY WILL THEN BE NOTED BUT DIB
HOPES PRESIDENT WILL REFER TO IT AS A WARTIME MILITARY/
POLITICO ACTION AND NOT A PEACETIME ECONOMIC ARM--
I.E., ALL SHOULD NOW MOVE TOWARD CONSULTATION AND CO-
OPERATION AND NOT RPT NOT CONFRONTATION. I SUGGESTED
SPEECH MIGHT ALSO ALLUDE BRIEFLY TO EFFORTS TOWARD
PEACE CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY USG AND THAT WHILE
USG NEED NOT SPECIFICALLY BE MENTIONED, LEBANON SHOULD
SUPPORT IMPLICITY WHAT IS BEING DONE. DIB SAID HE
THOUGHT THIS WAS EXCELLENT IDEA AND WOULD TRY TO HAVE
IT INCLUDED AND THEN ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER
POINTS I MIGHT SUGGEST. TOLD DIB I COULD NOT AS OF THE
MOMENT BUT WOULD INQUIRE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

4. PLEASE INSTRUCT URGENTLY FOR IT IS OBVIOUS THAT
FRANGIE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KICK OFF RABAT SUMMIT
ON A CONSTRUCTIVE AND REASONABLE BASIS.
GODLEY

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NNN

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